

Mr. Jonathan Kwitny
WNYC-TV
1 Center St., Rm. 1450
New York, N.Y. 10007

7627 Old Receiver Road

Dear Mr. Kwitny,

Five weeks ago I wrote you to report that when you sent people here for information for your JFK assassination special one of them robbed me.

I think it entirely unlikely that this could have been done by one in such close quarters without the knowledge of the others.

This thievery was particularly unconscionable because as your employees saw, I make copies of everything available to anyone. I suggest that for this reason and because all of my records will be a free public archive for the future silence with knowledge also is more reprehensible.

I do regret very much that your own concept of integrity, personal and professional, and your concept of the responsibilities you owe to WNYC-TV is that when you send people around in your name and that of the station it is right and proper for you to preserve silence when you are really responsible for the theft because those people were here in your name and on your and your station's behalf. Obviously, I have no chance at all of recovering what was stolen given your attitude toward it.

It may not concern you, this being your displayed attitude, but I intend to tell all those who in the future want to use these pictures that I do not have the original of some (and I think the only print of another) because your people ~~were~~ were thieves and stole them. You have not had enough self-respect to express regret or give me any reason why I should not say this.

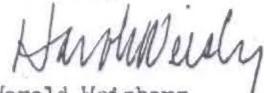
However few or many use this archive in the future, you have assured your self-portrayal in it.

I do not have a videotape of that program but I do have a sound tape. You are probably so unaware of the actualities, of what is fact, and care so little about it I do not think you will be troubled by the fact that it will not enhance this reputation you make for yourself.

You probably had no independent way of knowing whether your so-called experts lied or were truthful, whether what they represented as unquestionable fact was fact when they based so much on it but responsible journalism would have indicated at least an effort to find out. Specter and Belin were not in a position to assess those matters and could ~~not~~ as you should have known, filled any such function.

So, I also regret very much that you and the station imposed upon the trust of so many people, so many of whom feel that tragedy and its consequences so much. This imposition was greater because most of us expect higher standards from public TV than we get on commercial TV.

Sincerely,



Harold Weisberg

cc: WNYC station manager